

Crystal Cave Rocks!



Explore fabulous formations! Protected since its discovery in 1918, this is the only one of over 200 caves in these parks that can be toured. ©NPS Photo

Tickets are NOT sold at the cave, only at Lodgepole and Foothills visitor centers. Buy them at least 1-1/2 hours in advance of your tour.

Crystal Cave Road is 15 miles (24 km) from the Sequoia Park entrance on Hwy 198, and 3 miles (5 km) south of the General Sherman Tree (see map on page 12). Maximum vehicle length is 22' (6.7 m).

Use restrooms at the parking lot; these are not available at the cave. Wear sturdy shoes; the 1/2-mile trail (.8 km) to the cave is steep. Bring a jacket (free loaner jackets are available); the cave is 50 F (10 C).

No strollers, tripods, or baby backpacks. Not wheelchair accessible. Ask about Wild Cave Tours and group reservations! Tours operated by SNHA: 1-559-565-3759.

45-minute tours (be sure to check details above):

Saturdays - October 2, 9, & 16: 11am -4pm on the hour. October 23 & 30: 1pm - 4pm on the hour.

Sundays through Fridays - October 1-22: 11am, 2pm, 3pm. Sunday, October 24: 3pm, 4pm. Closed Monday, October 25. October 26-29: 2pm, 3pm. Sunday, October 31: 3pm, 4pm. Schedules may be subject to change.

Fees - Ages 6-12 \$5; age 13-61 \$10; age 62 & up, \$8; under 6 free. National Park & Golden Age passes do not apply. SNHA members get a 50% discount and all fees go to help the parks!

Last tours of the season: October 31!

NATURALIST PROGRAMS

WALKS & TALKS In the fall, free ranger activities may be offered on some weekends. Check bulletin boards for detailed schedules. Once snow accumulates, snowshoe walks will begin. See *Nature Programs* on pages 8 & 9. Ranger programs have been a tradition here since 1931 — join us!

VISITOR CENTERS Each one offers different exhibits to enjoy and sells a wide variety of books, maps, postcards, posters, and other items. Your purchases help to support the parks!

JUNIOR RANGER PROGRAM People of all ages earn a patch while learning to protect resources. Those 5 to 8 years old earn the Jay Award. If you are 9 to 12 years old, work for a Raven Award. Ages 13 to 103 earn a Senior patch! To get started, purchase a Jr. Ranger booklet in any visitor center. Follow the instructions and have fun!

TEACHERS - BRING YOUR CLASS TO THE PARKS!

Rangers offer curriculum-based programs for 2nd, 3rd, 4th, & 6th-grade classes in spring & fall. Topics include geology & caves, sequoias, & Native Americans. Reserve a date for a fun, interactive program: 1-559-565-4303.



SEQUOIA FIELD INSTITUTE!

Enjoy your parks more than ever — try the Sequoia Field Institute! Choose from their wide variety of programs: indoor and outdoor seminars, nature hikes, backpacking, school trips, and environmental education. In winter learn cross-country skiing, spend a day exploring on snowshoes, or try winter camping!

Housed in the Beetle Rock Education Center in Giant Forest, the Institute also arranges special educational packages for your club, school, group, or extended family. Whether you are new to the parks or an old hand, there is something for you at the Field Institute.

The Institute offers low fees, and any profits go to support park education and science programs. Pick up a course catalog at any visitor center or contact the non-profit Sequoia Natural History Association (SNHA), which operates the Institute: www.sequoiahistory.org or john_lockhart@sequoiahistory.org or 1-559-565-4251.

WHERE CAN I...

You are visiting two different types of areas - a National Park and a National Forest. Some activities may be illegal in the Park but legal in the Forest. See page 2 to learn why this is so, and use a map to know where you are!

- **GO CAMPING** In Parks: Only in numbered sites in designated campgrounds. In National Forest: In campgrounds or, unless posted otherwise, near roadsides. Pull safely off the road & no further.
- **CUT WOOD** Not in the Parks. In National Forest: Get permit & guidelines at Hume Lake Ranger District: 1-559-338-2251.
- **GO FISHING** In both areas: Permitted during the season; a California fishing license is required for ages 16 & up. Get copies of park-specific regulations at any visitor center.

- **WALK A PET** In Parks: Not on trails but it's ok in developed areas (campgrounds, picnic areas, roads). In National Forest: Leashed pets can go on trails. In both areas: Pets must be on a leash less than 6 feet (1.8m) long. Don't leave them in hot cars.
- **RIDE A BICYCLE** In Parks: Keep bikes on roads only, not on any trail. In National Forest: Ask a ranger which trails permit bicycles. In both areas: Be careful & courteous near pedestrians & horses. People under 18 must wear a helmet.
- **FEED WILDLIFE** Don't do it anywhere! Animals become unnaturally dependent. Some can be dangerous; some can carry disease. Roadside beggars get hit by cars.
- **COLLECT THINGS** Not in the Parks: Leave everything to play its natural role in the ecosystem. In National Forest: Gathering a few cones or rocks for personal

use is permitted. In both areas: Archeological sites & artifacts are protected by law.

- **DRIVE OFF-ROAD** Not in either area. Stay on roads.
- **HAVE A CAMPFIRE** Use of fire is restricted due to very dry conditions. Check bulletin boards and visitor centers for local restrictions before starting any fire, including charcoal. Smoking locations may be limited as well. In Parks: Only in fire grills in unrestricted campgrounds & some picnic areas. In National Forest: Get your required fire permit free at Grant Grove Visitor Center, Big Stump Entrance Station, or the USFS office in Dunlap on Highway 180.
- **GO PICNICKING** See picnic symbols on map (back page). Fire restrictions are in place; check before starting any fire: wood, charcoal, or gas. Never leave food unattended due to bears! Most sites have tables,

restrooms & fire grills, except: No grills at Foothills & Sandy Cove. Fires are never permitted at Lodgepole & Crescent Meadow. No water at Grizzly Falls, Halstead, and Powdercan. Water may be turned off in fall at higher elevations.

• RIDE HORSEBACK

Rides by-the-hour; back-country spot trips and guides.

Cedar Grove - closed
1-559-565-3464 summer
1-559-337-2314 off season

Grant Grove - closed
1-559-335-9292 summer
1-559-337-2314 off season

Mineral King - closed
1-559-565-3106

Horse Corral (in National Forest/Monument) - closes by mid-October.

Please call for reservations.
1-559-565-3404 summer
1-559-564-6429 off season
1-559-679-3573 cell